

Prosecutor Resigns for Job With Assassination Probers

By JOE CRANKSHAW
Herald Staff Writer

Assistant U.S. Attorney James McDonald is resigning his post to take a job he has been told will last only five months — senior staff counsel to the House Committee on Assassinations.



MCDONALD "I think the assassination of President John F. Kennedy has bothered the Ameri-

can people for a long time. If I can help resolve the mysteries in some way, then I think I will have done a service to the people."

McDonald said he believes he was offered the job because of his strong public service background.

This isn't the first time that McDonald has worked on a congressional committee staff. He was assistant counsel to the Select Committee on Crime chaired by Rep. Claude Pepper (D., Fla.).

And McDonald served three years as special counsel to Florida's Gov. Reubin Askew.

As an assistant U.S. attorney, he has worked in the fraud section, dealing almost exclusively with Medicare fraud. Several South Florida physicians and laboratories have been indicted and convicted by the Medicare fraud unit in the U.S. At-

torney's Office.

A native of Bridgeport, Conn., McDonald, 33, is a graduate of the Columbus School of Law of Catholic University in Washington, D.C. He served three years as an FBI agent in Seattle and San Francisco.

A ski and sailing buff, McDonald also has taught as an adjunct professor at the Florida State University School of Criminology and for Pepperdine University Extension Unit.

McDonald is married to the former Susan Kelleher of Stratford, Conn. The couple has two girls, Jennifer, 7, and Kristin, 5.

When his five-month service is completed, McDonald is returning to Miami to practice law. "We're not selling our home," he said. "Miami is where we want to live."

M. Herald Apr 18/78